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JF PN 133

Israel

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

POLICY PLANNING STAFF

April 20, 1951

S/P - Mr. Nitze

Implementation of NSC 47/5

I attended a meeting in NEA yesterday to consider what steps should be taken to implement the provisions of NSC 47/5, "U.S. Policy toward the Arab States and Israel". The matter is on an urgent basis, since the proposed military aid program for the Arab States and Israel will probably become known publicly about May 15, when the budget hearings are scheduled to commence. It is therefore essential to get together with the British in advance of that date and discuss the program with them, in view of the provision of NSC 47/5 that the countries of the Middle East should be strengthened in correlation with the efforts of the U.K.

A draft paper was discussed and approved recommending (1) that there should be established immediately a small State-Defense Working Group to discuss the implementation of those portions of NSC 47/5 which call for joint U.S.-U.K. action, and (2) that the U.S. and U.K. hold secret political-military talks here during the week commencing April 30. At these talks it would be decided how best to inform the French of the program, in order that we will not be faced with another Malta episode.

As a first step it was agreed to send a letter to Secretary of Defense apprising him of the situation and requesting the designation of Defense Department representatives to discuss the implementation of NSC 47/5 in accordance with the above. As soon as these representatives have been named, the Working Group will get together in preparation for the proposed talks with the British.

Since the working out of the program envisaged in NSC 47/5 seems to be principally an operational matter, I take it that this procedure meets with your approval and that you do not intend to conduct specific conversations with the British on this subject yourself.

Henry S. Villard

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY VWAF JR DATE 5/25/82

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